

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.  
PCT/US 01/12082

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61B5/022 A61B5/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, COMPENDEX

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages  | Relevant to claim No.    |
|------------|---|--------------------------|
| Y          | EP 0 422 512 A (TERUMO CORP)<br>17 April 1991 (1991-04-17)<br><br>column 7, line 58 - column 8, line 54<br>column 10, line 24 - line 49<br>column 13, line 37 - column 14, line 16<br><br>column 15, line 26 - line 35<br>--- | 1-4,6,<br>8-11,13,<br>15 |
| A          |   | 5,7,12,<br>14            |
| Y          | US 5 140 991 A (NIWA MINORU)<br>25 August 1992 (1992-08-25)<br><br>column 5, line 44 - column 6, line 7<br>column 7, line 42 - line 55<br>column 10, line 53 - line 58; figure 8<br><br>---<br>-/--                           | 1-4,6,<br>8-11,13,<br>15 |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

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\*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

\*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

\*Z\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

8 October 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

15/10/2001

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages   | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| Y          | WO 95 18564 A (VITAL INSITE INC)<br>13 July 1995 (1995-07-13)<br>page 11, line 22 -page 13, line 13<br>page 18, line 4 - line 8<br>----- | 1,8-10                |